

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 30, 2020

The Honorable Jared Polis  
Governor of Colorado  
Colorado State Capitol Building  
200 E. Colfax Ave., Room 136  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Polis,

We write to commend the bravery and perseverance of Colorado's firefighters in the face of immense danger. As wildfires threaten to destroy homes, communities, and livelihoods across our great state, thousands of firefighters have answered the call to halt the destruction. As such, we write to honor Colorado's firefighters for their sacrifice and dedicated service to our state.

As you know, at least 11 fires, seven of which are still active, have burned more than 600,000 acres across Colorado. Additionally, three of these fires – the Pine Gulch Fire, Cameron Peak Fire, and East Troublesome Fire – have all eclipsed the largest previously recorded fire in Colorado's history. These fires have forced entire communities to evacuate and have incurred more than \$200 million in firefighting expenses, which does not include the cost of damages caused by the fires.

On the front lines of this fight, firefighters have demonstrated heroism in the midst of extreme and volatile conditions. Even in instances where fires have grown rapidly, such as the East Troublesome Fire's nearly 140,000-acre expansion in one day, firefighters have courageously fought to halt the flames and prevent further destruction of Coloradans' livelihoods and property.

We applaud the valiant efforts of Colorado's firefighters and commend these brave individuals for their sacrifice and perseverance. We offer our continued support and prayers for our firefighters' safety and success in extinguishing these fires.

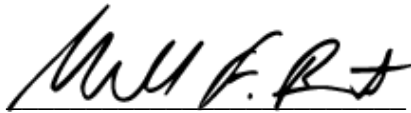
Sincerely,



Ken Buck  
Member of Congress



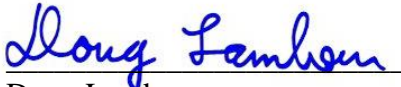
Cory Gardner  
United States Senator



Michael S. Bennet  
United States Senator



Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Scott Tipton  
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Jason Crow  
Member of Congress

CC: Mr. Michael C. Morgan, Division Director, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control  
Mr. Casey Judd, Business Manager, Federal Wildland Fire Service Association  
Mr. Tom DeMint, President, Colorado State Fire Chiefs  
Mr. Michael Frainier, President, Colorado Professional Fire Fighters  
Mr. Josh Bobb, President, Colorado State Fire Fighters Foundation